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# Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN JO 03588 091925Z

63
ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 AID-20 OMB-01 DRC-01 /148 W
---------- 054858
R 091800Z OCT 73
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5272

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, CS
SUBJ: FOUR POLITICAL PARTIES HOLD CONVENTIONS

REF: 1) SAN JOSE 3498 2) SAN JOSE 3334

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: THE PLN, PRD, PDC, AND PNI ALL
HELD THEIR NATIONAL ASSEMBLIES (CONVENTIONS) OVER THE
WEEKEND AND RATIFIED OR ELECTED THEIR RESPECTIVE CANDIDATES
FOR PRESIDENT, M
CE-PRESIDENTS, AND DEPUTIES. THERE WERE
FEW SURPRISES--MOST NOMINATIONS HAD BEEN WORKED OUT IN
ADVANCE--BUT THE OCCASIONS SERVED TO CLEAR THE WAY FOR EACH
PARTY TO BEGIN IN EARNEST ITS POLITICAL CAMPAIGN.

2. THE PARTIDO LIBERACION NACIONAL (PLN) HELD ITS
ASSEMBLY IN A SUBURBAN HOTEL ON OCTOBER 6. DANIEL ODUBER
HAD SET THE TONE WITH A CONVENTION-EVE, NATIONWIDE
TV ADDRESS DIRECTED LARGELY TO PARTY RANK AND FILE
TO WHOM HE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE EVENT.
THE CONVENTION RATIFIED ODUBER'S VICE-PRESIDENTIAL
RUNNING MATES, CARLOS MANUAL CASTILLO MORALES
AND FERNANDO GUZMAN MATA. THE CONVENTION ALSO
APPROVED A KEY CHANGE IN THE PLN PARTY STATUTES
SO AS TO PERMIT EX-PRESIDENTS OF THE REPUBLIC, IF
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PAGE 02 SAN JO 03588 091925Z

PLN, TO SIT ON THE PARTY'S POLITICAL COMMITTEE.

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(THIS IS AN IMPORTANT CHANGE BECAUSE
PEPE FIGUERES WILL, AFTER HE LEAVES OFFICE, BE ABLE
TO EXERCISE, IF HE WISHES, IMPORTANT INFLUENCE IN
INNER PARTY COUNCILS.) (REF 2)

3. THE PARTIDO RENOVACION DEMOCRATICO (PRD) HELD
ITS CONVENTION IN A LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL ON OCTOBER 7
WHEN THE PARTY ASSEMBLY CONFIRMED
JOSE JOAQUIN RODRIGUEZ CALVO AND FRANZ LARA EDUARTE
AS THE TWO VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES.
RODRIGO CARAZO'S CAMPAIGN EXPERTS, REVEALING AGAIN THEIR
ABILITY TO EXPLOIT EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR
POLITICAL CLOUT, ORGANIZED FROM THE CONVENTIONEERS A
LARGE CARAVAN OF TRAFFIC-STOPPING, FLAG-WAVING BACKERS
THAT WOULD ITS WAY BACK AND FORTH ACROSS SAN JOSE.

4. THE PARTIDO DEMOCRATICO CRISTIANO'S (PDC) LITTLE
NOTICED CONVENTION TOOK PLACE ON OCTOBER 7 WHERE THE
PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE JORGE ARTURO ZAMORA MONGE'S
VICE-PRESIDENTIAL RUNNING MATES CLAUDIO GUEVARA
BARAHONA AND JIMMY RIVERA ALLEN WERE APPROVED BY
THE PARTY'S CONVENTION DELEGATES.

5. THE PARTIDO NACIONAL INDEPENDIENTE (PNI)
CONVENTION TOOK PLACE IN A DOWNTOWN HOTEL WHERE
LONG DEBATE OVER SOME CANDIDACIES EXTENDED THE SESSION
UNTIL 3:30 AM, OCTOBER 9. JORGE GONZALEZ MARTEN CHOSE
NOT TO ATTEND, BUT FINALLY HAD TO PUT IN AN AFTER-MIDNI'5
APPAREANCE TO SAVE HIC CHOICE FOR THE NO. 1 POSITION ON
THE SAN JOSE DEPUTY SLATE. GONZALEZ MARTEN'S
VICE-PRESIDENTIAL RUNNING MATES WILL BE CLAUDIO ORLICH
CARRANZA AND GUILLERMO MALAVASSI VARGAS.
BERNAL PINTO URBINA, THE PRESIDENT OF THE EXTREMIST
RIGHT WING ORGANIZATION TGE MOVIMIENTO COSTA RICA LIBRE
(MCRL) DID NOT RPT NOT GET A DEPUTY CANDIDACY
SLOT FOR SAN JOSE PROVINCE AS EXPECTED, BUT THIS SHOULD
NOT NECESSARILY BE READ AS MEANING GONZALEZ MARTEN
HAS ALTERED HIS CLOSE RELATIONS WITHE THE MCRL. IT IS
MORE LIEKLY THAT MORE MODERATE ELEMENTS IN THE PNI
MANAGED TO PERSUADE GONZALEZ MARTEN OF THE COUNTER-
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PRODUCTIVE ELECTORAL EFFECT THAT A NOTORIOUS MCRL
MEMBER ON THE TICKET WOULD HAVE. HOWEVER,
GONZALEZ MARTEN'S CHOICE TO HEAD OHE SAN JOSE
DEPUTY SLATE IS A MEMBER OF A WOMEN'S ORGAN-
IZATION CONNECTED WITH THE MCRL. COMPLETE DEPUTY
SLTATES WILL BE FORWARDED BY AIRGRAM.
VAKY

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